

# Charleston County

## Hurricane Preparedness Guide



Are **YOU** Ready?

[www.charlestoncounty.org](http://www.charlestoncounty.org)



# Hurricanes Defined

## **Tropical Storm:**

Once winds within a tropical system reach 39 miles per hour and the distinct low pressure area is well defined by a rotating circulation, the system is considered a tropical storm and is given a name.

## **Hurricane:**

A hurricane has sustained winds exceeding 74 miles per hour or greater, dangerously high water and rough seas.

## **Hurricane Watch:**

A hurricane watch is issued when hurricane conditions are a real possibility for an area within 24-36 hours.

## **Hurricane Warning:**

A hurricane warning is issued when a hurricane is expected within 24 hours. Begin precautionary action at once.

## **Emergency Operations Center (EOC):**

Charleston County's EOC is located in the Lonnie Hamilton, III Public Services Building, 4045 Bridge View Drive, off Leeds Avenue in North Charleston.

When the EOC is activated, Charleston County decision-makers coordinate information and implement the County's Emergency Operations Plan during any type of disaster. This plan is reviewed and updated every January to ensure proper readiness and response procedures.

Once it is activated, the EOC is directed by the County Administrator, and is staffed by personnel from a variety of departments. If a storm increases in severity, other outside agencies will also send representatives to the EOC, so that information can be coordinated and shared among first responders from a single location. Some of these agencies/representatives include:

- Local law enforcement and fire
- Military personnel
- American Red Cross
- Department of Social Services
- Transportation services
- Public works and engineering services
- Hazardous Materials staff
- Telecommunications and power companies
- Coroner
- Damage assessment teams
- Special medical needs services



# Operating Conditions (OPCON) of the Emergency Operations Center

## **OPCON 5**

Day-to-day operations to include normal training and exercises



## **OPCON 4**

Possibility of an emergency or disaster situation that may require a partial or full activation of the Charleston County Emergency Operations Center.



## **OPCON 3**

Disaster or emergency situation likely or imminent. Full or partial activation of the Charleston County Emergency Operations Center; activate Charleston County Emergency Operations Plan.



## **OPCON 2**

Disaster or emergency situation in effect; maximum preparedness level; full activation of the Charleston County Emergency Operations Center.



## **OPCON 1**

Disaster or emergency situation in effect; full-fledged emergency response operations on-going; highest state of emergency operations.



## **Citizen's Info Line**

(DURING EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER ACTIVATION ONLY)

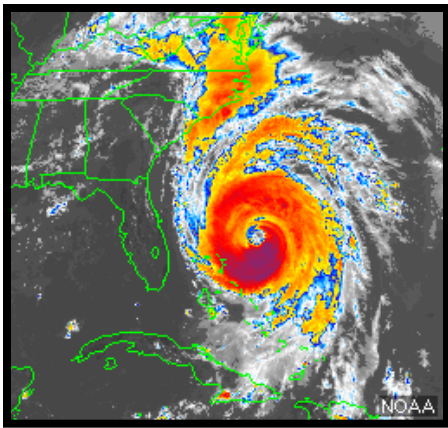
# (843) 202 – 7100



# Before the Storm

## Check into flood insurance.

You can find out about the National Flood Insurance Program through your home insurance agent. There is normally a 30-day waiting period before a new flood insurance policy becomes effective for an existing residence. Homeowner policies do not cover damage from the flooding that accompanies a hurricane.



## Develop an emergency communication plan.

In case family members are separated from one another during a disaster (a real possibility during the day when adults are at work and children are at school), create a plan for getting back together.

Ask an out-of-state relative or friend to serve as the "family contact." After a disaster, it's often easier to call long distance. Make sure everyone in the family knows the name, address, phone number and e-mail address of the contact person.

## Make sure that all family members know how to respond after a hurricane.

Teach family members how and when to turn off gas, electricity and water. Teach children how and when to call 9-1-1, police, or the fire department, and which radio station to listen to for emergency information.

## Create an Emergency Supplies Kit.

Because deployment of relief supplies and support to stricken communities can be delayed or prevented due to damaged or impassable bridges and roads, **assistance from emergency services may not be available for up to 72 hours following a major natural disaster.**

## Prepare your home.

Once a tornado, hurricane or major storm hits, it's too late to protect your home and property, but there are preparations you can make in advance to limit future wind and flood damage. Some are fairly simple and inexpensive; others will require a contractor. You'll need to consider the characteristics of your home, your financial resources and the building codes in your community.



# Emergency Kit

## **Prepare yourself and your family for a minimum of three days.**

Because deployment of relief supplies and support to storm-stricken communities can be delayed or prevented due to damaged or impassable bridges and roads, **assistance from emergency services may not be available for up to 72 hours following a major natural disaster.**

## **Keep informed.**

Charleston County Emergency Management work with local, state and national weather officials and the media to keep residents informed of the best ways to prepare or respond during a disaster situation. The purchase of a Weather Alert Radio for your home and place of employment can help you stay informed of changing conditions.

## **Storing your kit.**

Choose a location to store your kit where it is cool and dark, such as a closet or "safety corner" in the garage. If you live in an apartment or have limited space, be innovative. Other possible storage locations include under the bed, under stairways or even a large box or plastic tub that can be covered with a table cloth and used as an end table.



## **Layer and monitor supplies.**

Layer supplies and keep them together in a container such as a plastic garbage can with wheels. Check the items every six months for expiration dates, changes in your children's clothing sizes and weather requirements. A good way to remember to inspect your kit is to do it each time you set clocks back and change your smoke detector batteries.

## **Use what you have.**

Start with what you already have and prepare as if you are going camping for three days with no facilities. If you're a camper you've got a head start because camping supplies, tents, camp stoves and water jugs can double as emergency supplies.



# Emergency Kit – Food

Use canned foods for easy storage and long shelf life. However, be aware that they must be changed out at least annually. Choose ready-to-eat canned meat, fruits and vegetables that your family likes.

## **If the electricity goes off:**

- ☛ FIRST, use perishable food and foods from the refrigerator.
- ☛ THEN, use the foods from the freezer. To minimize the number of times you open the freezer door, post a list of freezer contents on the front. In a well-filled, well-insulated freezer, foods will usually still have ice crystals in their centers, meaning foods are safe to eat, for at least three days.
- ☛ FINALLY, begin to use non-perishable foods and staples.

## **Your Kit should include:**

- ☛ Ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits and vegetables
- ☛ Canned juices, milk, soup (if powdered, store extra water)
- ☛ Staples - sugar, salt, pepper
- ☛ High energy foods - peanut butter, jelly, crackers, granola bars, trail mix
- ☛ Foods and supplements for infants, elderly persons or persons on special diets
- ☛ Vitamins
- ☛ “Comfort foods” - cookies, hard candy, sweetened cereals, lollipops, instant coffee, tea bags
- ☛ Don’t forget food for your pets. Store canned or dry pet food along with an extra collar and leash. Pets are only allowed one of the Charleston County public shelters. You may need to make special arrangements for your pet or seek a hotel/motel that allows pets during emergencies.
- ☛ Store foods in single or family meal-size packaging. Unrefrigerated leftovers can cause food poisoning.
- ☛ Add a manual can opener, cooking and eating utensils.



# Emergency Kit – Water

Store a **three-day supply** of water for your family. **One gallon per person per day** is recommended for drinking, cooking and washing. Remember to include water for pets. Date your water containers and replace them every six months.

## Tips for storing and using water:

- ☛ Purify water by boiling it for 5 to 10 minutes or by adding drops of *unscented* household bleach containing 5.25 percent hypochlorite. The Federal Emergency Management Association recommends 16 drops of bleach per one gallon of water. Purification tablets or a filter system designed for backpackers also work well.
- ☛ Store water in plastic three-liter soda bottles instead of plastic milk-type jugs. Milk jugs will break down over time, and soda bottles last considerably longer. You can also freeze water, and it will last until needed. This frozen water also can be used for non-emergency situations such as camping, fishing, hunting, etc. However, don't forget to replace the water jugs when you get home.
- ☛ Learn how to remove water from your hot water heater in case you need it. Be sure to turn off the gas or electricity before draining water for emergency use.





# Emergency Kit – Tools and Supplies

## HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

- Paper goods, plates, cups, plastic utensils
- Map of area to find shelters or distribution points (street sign may be gone)
- Cash or travelers checks and change
- Battery-powered radio with extra batteries
- Flashlights with extra batteries
- Battery-powered clock with extra batteries
- First Aid Kit
- Fire extinguisher, small ABC type
- Duct tape
- Waterproofed matches
- Sewing kit
- Plastic storage containers
- Paper, pencils and pens
- Aluminum foil
- Plastic sheeting or tarps
- Basic tool kit (adjustable wrench, screw drivers, hammer, etc.)

## CLOTHING AND BEDDING

- Sturdy shoes or work boots
- Rain gear
- Blankets or sleeping bags
- Hat and work gloves
- Thermal underwear
- Sunglasses

## FOR BABY

- Diapers
- Formula
- Bottles
- Powered milk
- Medications

## FOR ADULTS

- All prescription medications
- Insulin if needed
- Denture needs
- Contact lenses and supplies
- Extra eye glasses

Supply list continued....



## **SANITATION**

- Toilet paper, towelettes
- Soap, liquid detergent
- Feminine supplies
- Personal hygiene items
- Plastic garbage bags with ties
- Plastic bucket with tight lid
- Disinfectant
- Unscented household bleach
- Insect repellent

## **SPECIAL ITEMS**

- Entertainment - books, toys and games
- Important family documents to keep in a waterproof container:
  - Family records (birth, marriage, death certificates)
  - Wills
  - Insurance policies
  - Contracts
  - Deeds
  - Stocks and bonds
  - Passports
  - Social Security cards
  - Immunization records
  - Bank account numbers
  - Credit card account numbers/company
  - Inventory of valuable household items

## **FIRST AID KIT**

- Sterile adhesive bandages in assorted sizes
- 2-inch sterile gauze pads (4-6)
- 4-inch sterile gauze pads (4-6)
- Hypoallergenic adhesive tape
- Triangular bandages (3)
- 2-inch sterile roller bandages (3 rolls)
- 3-inch sterile roller bandages (3 rolls)
- Scissors
- Tweezers
- Needles
- Assorted sizes of safety pins
- Moistened towelettes
- Antiseptic
- Thermometer
- Tongue blades (2)
- Tube of petroleum jelly or other lubricant
- Soap
- Latex gloves (2 pairs)
- Sunscreen

### **Non-prescription drugs**

- Aspirin or non-aspirin pain reliever
- Anti-diarrhea medication
- Antacid (for stomach upset)
- Syrup of Ipecac (use to induce vomiting if advised by the Poison Control Center)
- Laxative
- Activated charcoal (use if advised by the Poison Control Center)



# Prepare Your Home

This homeowner's checklist will help you learn what you can do in advance to protect your home from wind and flood damage. For more information about the costs and benefits of each approach, talk to a professional builder, architect or contractor. You should also ask the County Building Services Department (843-202-6930) about building permit requirements.



## **Is the roof sheathing properly installed?**

During a hurricane, wind forces are carried from the roof down to the exterior walls, down to the foundation. Homes can be damaged when wind forces are not properly transferred to the ground.

Roof sheathing (the boards or plywood nailed to the roof rafters or trusses) can fail during a hurricane if not properly installed. Examine the sheathing from the attic. If many of the nails have missed the rafters, you may need to re-nail the sheathing. If you're putting on a new roof, make sure the sheathing complies with current recommended practices.

## **Are end gables securely fastened to the rest of the roof?**

In a hurricane or other windstorm, the side walls of the roof (end gables) take a real beating and can collapse. Gable bracing often consists of 2x4 – inch boards placed in an "X" pattern at both ends of the attic – from the top center of the end gable to the bottom of the brace of the fourth truss, and from the bottom center of the end gable to the peak of the roof.

## **Is the roof fastened to the walls with hurricane straps?**

Hurricane straps (made of galvanized metal) help keep the roof fastened to the walls in high winds. They can be difficult to install, so you may need a contractor for this project. Ask the County Building Services Department whether hurricane straps are required or advisable in your area.

### **Are double entry doors secured at the top and bottom?**

The exterior walls, doors and windows are the protective shell of your home. If the shell is broken during a storm, high winds can enter the home and put pressure on the roof and walls, causing serious damage.

For each double door, at least one of the doors should be secured at both the top of the door frame and the floor with sturdy sliding bolts. Most bolts that come with double doors, however, are not strong enough to withstand high winds. Your local hardware can help you select the proper bolts. Some door manufacturers provide reinforcing bolt kits made specifically for their doors.

### **Has the garage door been properly secured?**

If the garage door fails, winds can enter your home and blow out doors, windows, walls and the roof. Ask the County Building Services Department for guidance on securing a garage door.

### **Are windows protected by storm shutters?**

Installing storm shutters is one of the most effective ways to protect your home. Purchase or make shutters for all exposed windows, French doors, sliding glass doors and skylights.

There are many types of manufactured storm shutters available made of wood, aluminum or steel. You can also make storm shutters with 5/8 inch-thick, exterior-grade plywood.



### **Is the main electric panel board located above potential flood waters?**

The main electric panel board (electric fuses or circuit breakers) should be at least 12 inches above the projected flood elevation for your home. The panel board height is regulated by code. All electrical work should be done by a licensed electrician.

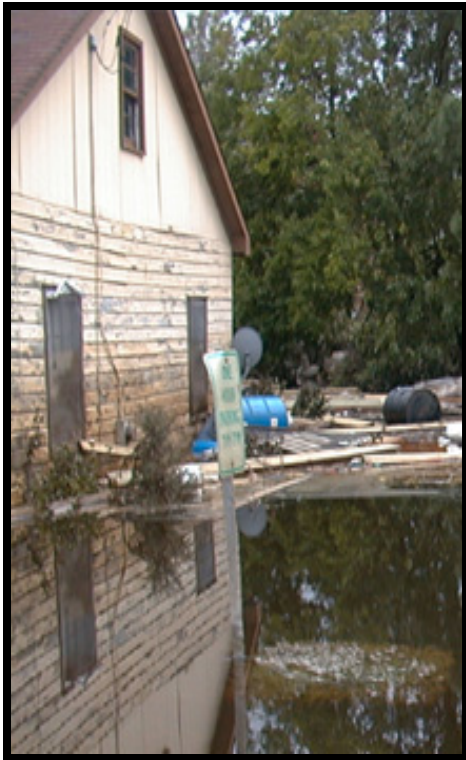
### **Are electric outlets and switches located above potential flood waters?**

Consider elevating all electric outlets, switches, light sockets, baseboard heaters and wiring at least 12 inches above the projected flood elevation for your home. You may also want to elevate electric service lines (at the point they enter your home) at least 12 inches above the projected flood elevation. In areas that could get wet, connect all receptacles to a ground fault interrupter (GFI) circuit to avoid the risk of electric shock. Have electrical wiring done by a licensed electrician.

### **Are the washer and dryer above potential flood waters?**

For protection against shallow flood waters, the washer and dryer can sometimes be elevated on masonry or pressure-treated lumber at least 12 inches above the projected flood elevation. Other options are moving the washer and dryer to a higher floor, or building a floodwall around the appliances.

### **Are the furnace and water heater above potential flood waters?**



The furnace and water heater can be placed on masonry blocks or concrete at least 12 inches above the projected flood elevation, moved to inside a floodwall or moved to a higher floor. You have more options for protecting a new furnace. Ask your utility company about rebates for new energy efficient furnaces. The rebate plus the savings in fuel costs could make the purchase feasible.

Furnaces that operate horizontally can be suspended from ceiling joists if the joists are strong enough to hold the weight. Installing a draft-down furnace in the attic may be an option if allowed by local codes. Some heating vents can be located above the projected flood elevation.

Outside air conditioning compressors, heat pumps or package units (single units that include a furnace and air conditioner) can be placed on a base of masonry, concrete or pressure-treated lumber. All work must conform to state and local building codes.

### **Is the fuel tank anchored securely?**

A fuel tank can tip over or float in a flood, causing fuel to spill or catch fire. Cleaning up a house that has been inundated with flood waters containing fuel oil can be extremely difficult and costly. Fuel tanks should be securely anchored to the floor. Make sure vents and fill-line openings are above projected flood levels. Propane tanks are the property of the propane company. You'll need written permission to anchor them. Be sure all work conforms to state and local building codes.

### **Does the floor drain have a float plug?**

Install a floating floor drain plug at the current drain location. If the floor drain pipe backs up, the float will rise and plug the drain.



# During a Hurricane Watch

**A Hurricane Watch is issued when hurricane conditions are a real possibility for an area within 24-36 hours.**

- ☞ Review your family disaster plan and check your Emergency Supplies Kit to include food and water supplies.
- ☞ Review evacuation plans. Learn safe routes inland and plan your evacuation route. Be ready to drive 20 to 50 miles inland to locate a safe place.
- ☞ Make sure the gas tank in your car is full.
- ☞ Make arrangements for pets, and identify pet friendly shelters
- ☞ Refill prescription medications.
- ☞ Anchor or stow small boats.
- ☞ Bring in outdoor objects such as lawn furniture, toys and garden tools; anchor objects that cannot be brought inside.
- ☞ Remove outside antennas.
- ☞ Secure buildings by closing and boarding up windows.
- ☞ Turn refrigerator and freezer to coldest settings. Open only when absolutely necessary and close quickly.
- ☞ Store drinking water in jugs, bottles and clean bathtubs.
- ☞ Trim dead or weak branches from trees.
- ☞ Stay tuned to local media and your Weather Alert Radio for updates on the storm.



# During a Hurricane Warning

**A Hurricane Warning is issued when a hurricane is expected within 24 hours. Begin precautionary action at once.**

- ☞ Store valuables such as jewelry, silverware and scrapbooks in a safe place, such as a waterproof container on the highest level of your home.
- ☞ Park your car in a sheltered area or on high ground.
- ☞ Listen to a battery-operated radio or television for official instructions.
- ☞ Evacuate if the order is given.
- ☞ If you must stay at home, stay inside away from windows, skylights and glass doors.
- ☞ Keep a supply of flashlights and extra batteries. Avoid using open flames, such as candles and kerosene lamps, as a source of light.
- ☞ If power is lost, turn off major appliances to reduce power "surge" when electricity is restored.
- ☞ If officials order an evacuation:
  - Leave as soon as possible. Avoid flooded roads and watch for washed-out bridges.
  - Secure your home by unplugging appliances and turning off electricity and the main water valve.
  - Tell someone outside of the storm area where you are going.
  - If time permits, and you live in an identified surge zone, elevate furniture to protect it from flooding or better yet, move it to a higher floor.
  - Bring your pre-assembled Emergency Supplies Kit.
  - Take blankets and sleeping bags if you are going to a shelter.
  - Lock up your home and leave.





# Evacuation Information

## "Move from the water, and brace for the wind"

If you are advised to evacuate your home and move to a safe, temporary location, there are a few things you should remember:

- Follow the instructions and advice of your local government. If you are advised to evacuate, do so promptly. If certain travel routes are specified or recommended, use those routes. Once an order is given you may not be allowed to select your route. **If you plan to leave, leave early.**
- Travel with care.
  - If you are driving your car to another location, keep in mind it is best to leave early enough to avoid being affected by flooding roads, fallen trees or power lines.
  - Make sure the gas tank in your car is full, and listen to the radio as you travel for additional information and instructions from emergency officials.
  - Make sure you have a South Carolina highway map in your vehicle.
  - Evaluate and be prepared to use parallel routes out of the community - this may include smaller roads that run parallel to the interstates and other highways.
  - If you must travel with more than one vehicle, plan to leave early to avoid traffic.
  - In advance of leaving your residence, prepare your family Disaster Kit (see page for list of supplies) and take it with you in the car.
- When an emergency is declared and an evacuation order is announced, designated shelters are opened and operated by the American Red Cross and announced on local radio and television stations.
- While shelters are available in a hurricane situation, there is not enough shelter space in Charleston County for all citizens. Therefore, officials urge citizens to use alternative housing options, such as traveling to a friend's or relative's inland home or to a motel. And remember, even inland shelters and motels may experience loss of electrical power. Take your Emergency Supplies Kit with you.
- Citizens who go to a shelter are asked to bring blankets and pillows, some food for the first day and any necessary medications and supplies. It is highly recommended citizens bring their Emergency Supplies Kits.



# Evacuation Routes

When a hurricane threatens South Carolina's coast, you may plan to leave voluntarily or you may be ordered to evacuate. Blue hurricane evacuation signs are posted along roads to guide you inland to safety.

South Carolina local and state law enforcement officers and the South Carolina Army National Guard will be posted along these routes to assist you. Motorists who wish to deviate from the primary evacuation routes may experience delays.

Motorists should be on the lookout for electronic message boards along the evacuation routes and should follow any instructions displayed. These boards may direct motorists to tune in to a local AM radio station to hear route-specific traffic information and other special emergency messages.

## Edisto Island and Adams Run

- ☛ Take SC 174 to US 17.
- ☛ Take US 17 south to SC 64. This will take you to Walterboro, and then on to North Augusta.

## Yonges Island, Meggett, Hollywood, and Ravenel

- ☛ Take SC 165 to US 17, then US 17 south to SC 64.

## Johns Island, Kiawah Island and Seabrook Island

- ☛ Take use SC 700 (Maybank Highway) to Road S-20 (Bohicket Road) to US 17.
- ☛ Take US 17 south to SC 64 where you will go to Walterboro, then on to North Augusta.

## James Island and Folly Beach

- ☛ Take SC 171 (Folly Road) to US 17.
- ☛ Take US 17 south to I-526 east to the reversed lanes of I-26.





## **City of Charleston**

- ☞ The west side of the city (West Ashley) will use SC 61 to US 78, then to Aiken and North Augusta.
- ☞ Downtown will use the normal west-bound lanes of I-26.

## **North Charleston**

- ☞ Take US 52 (Rivers Avenue) to US 78 to US 178 to Orangeburg, or continue on US 52 to US 176, or continue north on US 52.
- ☞ The right lane of US 52 at Goose Creek will continue on to Moncks Corner. In Moncks Corner, it will be directed onto SC 6, where SC 6 will take you toward Columbia.
- ☞ The left lane of US 52 at Goose Creek will go on to US 176 to Columbia.
- ☞ Evacuees using SC 642 will travel west toward Summerville, and then take Road S-22 (Old Orangeburg Road) to US 78 west.

## **East Cooper**

- ☞ Mount Pleasant: Take I-526 west or US 17 south to I-26 west.
- ☞ Sullivan's Island: Take SC 703 to I-526 Business to access I-526 west, and then take I-26 west.
- ☞ Isle of Palms: Take the Isle of Palms connector (SC 517) to go to US 17 where the right lane will turn north onto US 17. Next, proceed to take SC 41 to SC 402; then to US 52 to SC 375; then to US 521 to SC 261; and then US 378 to Columbia.
- ☞ Evacuees using the left lanes of the Isle of Palms connector will turn left to go to I-526 west and then on to I-26 west.
- ☞ Evacuees on I-526 west approaching I-26 from East Cooper will be directed to the normal lanes of I-26 westbound if in the right lane of I-526.
- ☞ Those in the left lane of I-526 will be directed into the reversed lanes of I-26.

## **Awendaw and McClellanville**

- ☞ Take SC 45 to US 52, where you will be directed to the right onto US 52 to SC 375; then to US 521 to SC 261; and then to US 378 to Columbia.



# 2006 Red Cross Shelter List

**Citizens who relocate to a shelter are asked to bring blankets and pillows, some food for the first day and any necessary medications and sanitary supplies. It is highly recommended citizens bring their Emergency Supplies Kit.**

<b>Voluntary</b>	Stall High School 7749 Pinehurst Street N. Charleston, SC 29420	<b>Reserve</b>	Lambs Elementary School 6800 Dorchester Road N. Charleston, SC 29418
<b>Voluntary</b>	Midland Park Elementary 2415 Midland Park Road N. Charleston, SC 29418	<b>Reserve</b>	Ladson Elementary 3321 Ladson Road Ladson, SC 29456
<b>Voluntary</b>	North Charleston High School 1087 East Montague Ave N. Charleston, SC 29406	<b>Reserve</b>	Matilda F. Dunston Elementary 1825 Remount Road N. Charleston, SC 29406
<b>Voluntary</b>	Morningside Middle School 1999 Singley Lane N. Charleston, SC 29405	<b>Reserve</b>	Ronald E. McNair Elementary 3795 Spruill Ave N. Charleston, SC 29405
<b>Mandatory</b>	Garrett Academy of Technology 2731 Gordon Street N. Charleston, SC 29405	<b>Reserve</b>	Minnie Hughes Elementary 8548 Willtown Road Hollywood, SC 29449
<b>Mandatory</b>	A.C. Corcoran Elementary 8585 Vistavia Road N. Charleston, SC 29406	<b>Reserve</b>	E.B. Ellington Elementary School 5600 Ellington School Road Ravenel, SC 29470
<b>Mandatory</b>	Pepperhill Elementary 3300 Creola Road N. Charleston, SC 29420	<b>Special Medical Needs</b>	Alice Birney Middle School 7750 Pinehurst Street N. Charleston, SC 29420
<b>Mandatory</b>	Brentwood Middle School 2685 Leeds Ave N. Charleston, SC 29405		

**Pay attention to local media to find out which shelters are open.**



# After the Storm

**Stay tuned to local media for information. Return home only after authorities advise that it is safe to do so.**

- ☞ Enter your home with caution.
- ☞ Avoid loose or dangling power lines and report them immediately to the power company, police or fire department.
- ☞ Beware of snakes, insects and animals driven to higher ground, such as inside your home, by flood water.
- ☞ Open windows and doors to ventilate and dry your home.
- ☞ Check the refrigerator for spoiled foods.
- ☞ Take pictures of the damage, both to the house and its contents, for insurance claims.
- ☞ Drive only if absolutely necessary and avoid flooded roads and washed-out bridges.
- ☞ Use the telephone only for emergency calls.
- ☞ Check for gas leaks – If you smell gas or hear a blowing or hissing noise, open a window and quickly leave the building. Turn off the gas at the outside main valve if you can and call the gas company from a neighbor's home. If you turn off the gas for any reason, it must be turned back on by a professional.
- ☞ Look for electrical system damage – If you see sparks or broken or frayed wires, or if you smell hot insulation, turn off the electricity at the main fuse box or circuit breaker. If you have to step in water to get to the fuse box or circuit breaker, call an electrician first for advice.
- ☞ Check for sewage and water line damage – If you suspect sewage lines are damaged avoid using the toilets and call a plumber. If water pipes are damaged, contact the water company and avoid the water from the tap.



# Managing Storm Debris

Do your part to help speed up the recovery process. Proper clean-up procedures can go a long way toward regaining your normal way of life.

Separate your debris into the following categories:



**Yard Debris - Trees and brush**



**Building Debris – Construction materials, carpet and furniture**



**Bulky Metal Items - appliances and bikes**



**Household Garbage - Food and paper waste**



**Household Hazardous Materials – Paint, solvents, cleaners, fertilizers and insecticides should be separated with extreme care.**

*As you clear debris from your yard and home, please be careful not to block roadways, fire hydrants or utility boxes.*



# Important Phone Numbers

<b>Charleston County Emergency Preparedness Division</b>	<b>(843) 202 - 7400</b>
<b>Charleston County Building Services</b> (Preparing Your Home and Flood Zone Information)	<b>(843) 202 - 6930</b>
<b>Disabilities Resource Center</b> (Mobility Issues Assistance)	<b>(843) 225 - 5080</b>
<b>S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control</b> (Medical Needs Assistance)	<b>(843) 724 - 5850</b>
<b>American Red Cross: Carolina Lowcountry Chapter</b>	<b>(843) 764 - 2323</b>
<b>S.C. Department of Transportation</b> (Evacuation Traffic Information)	<b>(888) 877- 9151</b>
<b>Charleston County Emergency Public Information Line</b> (Open <u>only</u> during Emergency Operation Center Activation)	<b>(843) 202 - 7100</b>
<b>Charleston County Emergency Public Information Line - <i>Spanish</i></b> (Open <u>only</u> during Emergency Operation Center Activation)	<b>(843) 202 - 7191</b>



**Homeland Security**

# Family Communications Plan

**Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so plan how you will contact one another and review what you will do in different situations.**

Out-of-Town Contact Name _____	Telephone Number: _____
Email: _____	Telephone Number: _____

**Fill out the following information for each family member and keep it up to date.**

Name: _____	Social Security Number: _____
Date of Birth: _____	Important Medical Information: _____
Name: _____	Social Security Number: _____
Date of Birth: _____	Important Medical Information: _____
Name: _____	Social Security Number: _____
Date of Birth: _____	Important Medical Information: _____
Name: _____	Social Security Number: _____
Date of Birth: _____	Important Medical Information: _____
Name: _____	Social Security Number: _____
Date of Birth: _____	Important Medical Information: _____
Name: _____	Social Security Number: _____
Date of Birth: _____	Important Medical Information: _____

**Where to go in an emergency.** Write down where your family spends the most time: work, school and other places you frequent. Schools, daycare providers, workplaces and apartment buildings should all have site-specific emergency plans.

**Home**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Neighborhood Meeting Place: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Regional Meeting Place: \_\_\_\_\_

**Work**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evacuation Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**School**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evacuation Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**Work**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evacuation Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**School**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evacuation Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**Other place you frequent:**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evacuation Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**School**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evacuation Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**Other place you frequent:**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evacuation Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Important Information	Name	Telephone #	Policy #
Doctor(s):			
Other:			
Pharmacist:			
Medical Insurance:			
Homeowners/Rental Insurance:			
Veterinarian/Kennel (for pets):			

**Other useful phone numbers:** **9-1-1** for emergencies. Police Non-Emergency Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_





**4045 Bridge View Drive  
North Charleston, SC 29405  
Phone: (843) 958- 4000**

**Produced by Charleston County on May 23, 2006**

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